

RUSSIAN POWERS SPENT, SAYS BERLIN

Petrograd, However, Belittles Loss of Polish City to German Army.

NO SOLDIER LOST IN MOVE

Berlin Admits Enemy is Making New Stand and Vienna Says Stubborn Defense is Made, but Success of Attacks Claimed.

BERLIN, Dec. 9.—(Special).—The capture of Lodz is considered here as the turning point in the Polish campaign. While the general staff's brief announcement of the retreat of the Russians probably refers only to the region adjacent to Lodz, it is regarded as highly probable that the capture of the city will compel the Russians to withdraw to the more easterly and southerly parts of Poland, because their connections with Warsaw are endangered.

Even before the fall of Lodz German military men noted that the Russian efforts to break the German lines had been abandoned.

Russian Power Believed Broken. The highly pessimistic feeling in Petrograd, reported here by way of the Scandinavian countries, has given additional encouragement to the view that the Russian power of offensive has already passed its zenith and that further operations will practically decide the war in the east in favor of Germany and Austria, and that this will determine the general result.

The Austrian general staff reports that the Germans and Austrians jointly defeated the Russians in Western Galicia Saturday, taking 2300 prisoners. "Only at 3 o'clock in the afternoon of December 8 did the German move forward to verify that there was nobody in the trenches facing them. They then entered the town."

Not a Soldier Lost. In changing our positions in the region of Lodz we did not lose a soldier. We undertook this maneuver only after we had ascertained that the Germans had definitely decided not to continue their attacks in this district.

Our maneuver was entirely independent of any aggressive action on the part of the enemy. The Austrian general staff today published the following communication in Vienna: "In Eastern Galicia the fighting again is becoming stubborn. In the west our troops attacked and caused the enemy to withdraw from his position between Doboszyca and Wieliczka (southeast of Cracow). It has not been possible to ascertain the total number of prisoners taken, but over 5000 have been captured, among them being 27 officers."

Poland repulsed Russian attacks to the south of Piotrkow everywhere have been repulsed by the Austro-Hungarian troops.

Russians Retire in Mountains. "Nothing of note occurred in the Carpathians. The Russian troops again have been compelled to retire behind the mountain ridges."

PETROGRAD, Dec. 9.—The evacuation by the Russians of Lodz, Russian Poland, is admitted in a communication issued today, though the statement adds that the Russians did not lose a soldier when the position was given up.

The text of the communication is as follows: "The German official communication says that the Russians must have incurred enormous losses in the evacuation of Lodz. The confidence that should be placed in this communication is evidenced by the fact that the Russian troops withdrew from Lodz about midnight on December 6, while the Germans remained motionless for 12 hours in front of their empty trenches, the attack on which had cost them more than 10,000 soldiers and upon which they dared not advance."

German Disregard Toll. The German attacks in Lodz, to the west of Warsaw, yesterday were conducted with absolute disregard of consequences. As a result of a report reaching here tremendous losses were incurred.

The German method of throwing columns after columns in close ranks, the men marching shoulder to shoulder, was evidence of the determination to take this position, which is on the direct road to Warsaw and nearer to Warsaw than any other fighting center on the Lodz front.

In spite of the murderous fire of the Russians, the German infantry lay in the shallow trenches dug out with their bayonets and their hands, at a distance of 300 paces from the Russian intrenchments, and brought up their artillery to within 300 paces of the Russian positions.

The Army Messenger, an official organ, declares that while the Germans were moving forward from Lodz yesterday they attacked Pabianitz, 19 miles southwest of Lodz, in close ranks, and forced the Russians to give ground, but with the approach of darkness the Russian advance was arrested.

The continued use of their armored columns on the Lodz-Pabianitz highway, Zdzanska, Wola, Lask and Pabianitz marked the successive steps of the attempted German advance on Warsaw.

Cracow Evacuation Goes On. The Russian movement enveloping Cracow continues slowly but successfully, according to information reaching Petrograd. The center of operations has shifted to the southward, to the foothills of the Carpathians, on the left wing of the Russian front, which extends from Veltchka, six miles from Cracow, and within the outer circle of the Cracow fort, to Neu Sandec, 20 miles southeast of Cracow. Here the Austro-German right is attempting a wide outflanking movement, heavily reinforced, with German troops from Belgium.

BERLIN, Dec. 9.—(By Wireless to London).—The official statement issued today by German army headquarters said: "No new reports are at hand from East Prussia.

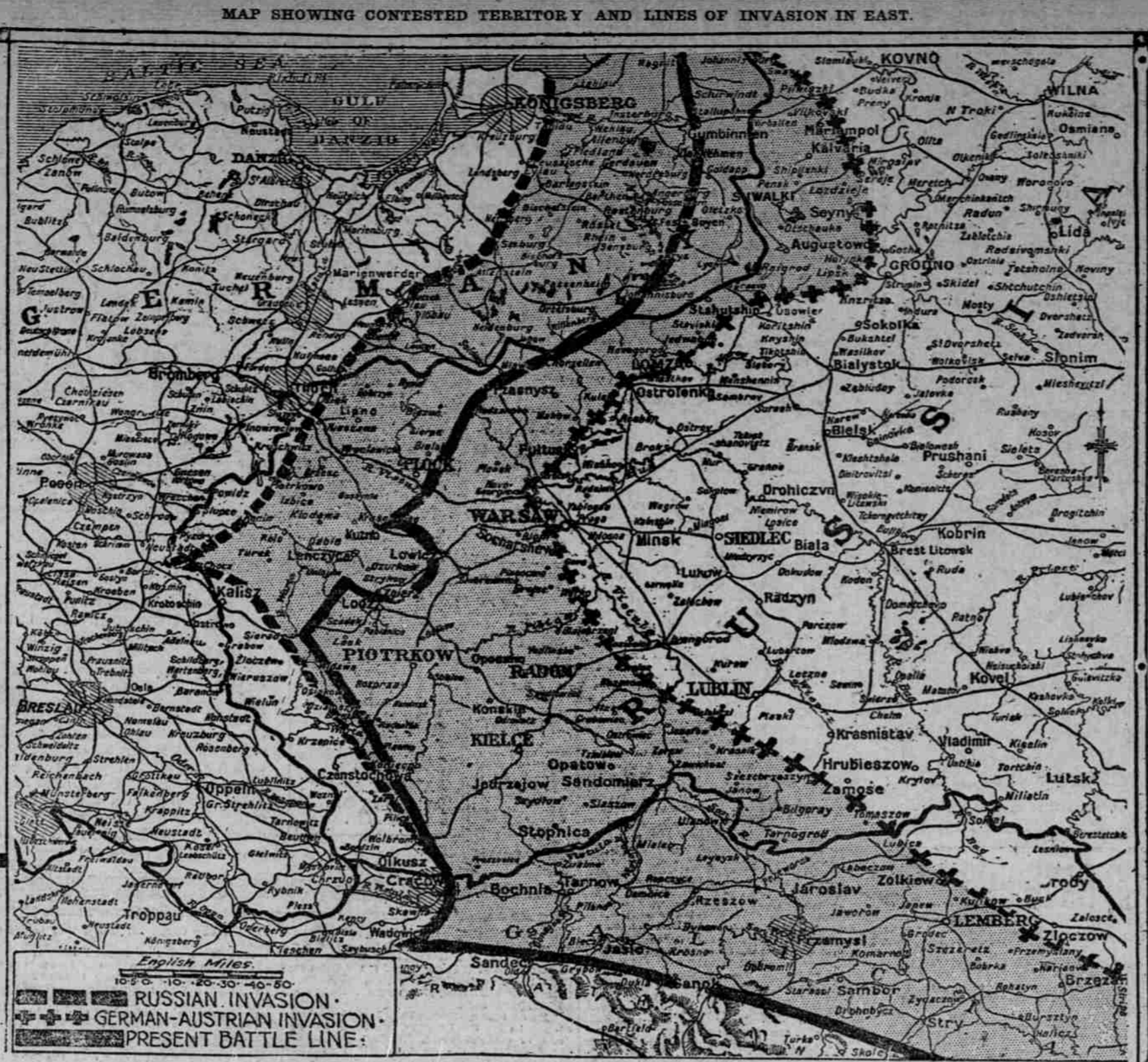
"In Northern Poland our troops are in close touch with the Russians, who have come to a standstill in a strongly fortified position. East of the Warta the fighting for Lovicz continues.

"In Southern Poland, Austro-Hungarian troops, fighting side by side with our troops, have successfully repulsed the attack."

GREEKS BATTLE BULGARS

Fight Between Guards Lasts Ten Hours, Says Sofia Report.

BERLIN, Dec. 9.—(Special).—A report received here from Sofia says: "Ten hours of fighting have occurred between Greek and Bulgarian guards."



Shaded Portion Shows Territory Over Which Battle Has Ebbed and Flowed. Heavy Black Line Marks Present Battle Line. Yesterday's Fighting Was at Lovicz. Shows Slightly to Left of Center of Semi-Circular Bulge. To the South It Shows Lodz, Recently Taken by Germans. To the East and North It Shows Warsaw, Which is Now the German Objective. Heavy Dots Mark Extreme of Russian Invasion. Crosses Mark Extreme of German-Austrian Invasion. Neither Side, as Will be Seen by Comparison of These Lines With the Present Battle Line, Has Been Able to Hold the Ground It Gained.

GAINS ARE CLAIMED

British Eye-Witness Says Time Works for Allies.

GOOD FEELING DESCRIBED

Entire Absence of Friction Between English and French Declared More Remarkable in Land Where Wine is Drunk.

LONDON, Dec. 9.—"Of major tactical operations by the British forces there recently has been an entire absence; nor for some weeks has any strategical advantage been won in a geographical sense since there has been no advantage and no gain in ground."

Colonel E. D. Swinton, the British eye witness on the battle front in France and Belgium, under date of December 6 thus sums up the situation. He adds, however, that while there has been no advance by the allies there has been a constant "strategic progress in that time is working on their side."

The remainder of the account relates to the lighter incidents at the front, emphasizing particularly the good feeling which exists between the British and the French soldiers and French populace.

"There could be no more cordial relations," the British observer writes. "There never has been any sort of friction. This appears to be all the more remarkable when it is remembered how many thousands of men are thrown together and that wine is the common drink of the country."

GERMANS BOMBARD HOSPITAL

Action Reported Due to Presence of French Battery at Rear.

BERLIN, Dec. 9.—(By wireless to London).—The official statement issued by the German army headquarters this afternoon says: "To the west of Rheims a fishery, although flying the Red Cross flag, has been bombed and set on fire by our troops, as we had ascertained by means of photographs taken by our aviators that behind the fishery was hidden a French heavy battery."

"French attacks in the district around Souain and on the villages of Varennes and Vouquiers, in the eastern part of the Forest of Argonne, were repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy."

"In the Forest of Argonne itself, ground was gained in several places. On this occasion we took a number of prisoners."

"The French suffered heavy losses in the battles reported yesterday to the north of Nancy. Our losses were comparatively small."

FRENCH ADVANCE REPORTED

German Attack on Tracy-le-Val Repulsed, Says Paris.

PARIS, Dec. 9.—The following official communication was issued tonight: "The attack on other incidents of importance to report than an advance by our troops before Parvillers (Department of the Somme) and a German attack on Tracy-le-Val (Department of the Oise), which was repulsed."

The earlier report said that all the positions won by the French during the past two days have been strengthened. It adds that the French have made gains in the Argonne. The text of the communication follows: "During the day of December 8 there

GOLD IS SENTINEL

Few Soldiers Guard Prisoners Held in Siberia.

MUCH FREEDOM GIVEN

Russian Official Says Number of Captives is 750,000, Exclusive of Those Recently Taken—Germans Relatively Few.

LONDON, Nov. 27.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press).—One small squad of Russian soldiers is serving as the guard for 100,000 Austrian and German prisoners whose prison walls consist of 400 miles of frozen steppes separating them from the borders of their own countries.

These prisoners are interned at Semipalatinsk, on the Irish River, near the borders of Western Mongolia. Here splendid quarters were found in the big barracks erected for the mobilization of the Russian army and unoccupied since its departure for the front.

Freedom in Daytime Absolute. Every morning at 8 o'clock the prisoners are released from the barracks and permitted to wander about at will. When they depart in the morning they are told that unless they re-

EDISON PLANT BURNS

(Continued From First Page.)

of the larger buildings made the work of fighting the fire extremely difficult, as the firemen were constantly in danger of injury. Explosions occurred frequently. Employees who were at the plant all escaped safely, the fire drill bell being sounded and men and women marched out in virtually perfect order.

In all 11 buildings in the main plant went down with the fire. The buildings destroyed included those occupied by the New Diamond Disc Company, the one occupied by the Kinophone Company and the building which housed the Belsco numbering machines, together with the primary Edison battery building, the talking machine building and the administration building.

Edison Himself Takes Charge. Mr. Edison was not at the plant when the fire broke out, but he was quickly notified and soon appeared. He assumed personal charge of directing the forces combating the flames which were sweeping away the buildings that represented the work of years of his brain in their design, equipment and the products they sent out. He was especially anxious regarding the laboratory building for the reason that it probably would be impossible to save the greater part of the rest of the plant. He had the efforts of the firefighters centered on the laboratory building.

In the meantime such of the valuable scientific apparatus, drawings, models and other treasured possessions of the inventor in this building as could be readily moved were carried to a place of safety.

Delicate Machinery Destroyed. After the fire it was Mr. Edison himself who made the estimate of the loss entailed. The buildings themselves and a large amount of valuable stock and delicate machinery that they contained would make the damage about \$7,000,000 he said, while there was \$2,000,000 insurance on the plant.

The burned buildings, the inventor said, were supposed to be the finest examples of modern fireproof construction and pictures of them as such had been exhibited all over the country.

The structures destroyed all were included in one large block. The storage battery building, a large concrete structure standing across the street from the burned area, seemed in danger several times but the firemen managed to keep the flames away from it.

Kansas Gets Value of Its Wheat. WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—On its investigation of marketing of Kansas wheat, the Department of Agriculture reported to Congress today that "no collusion to restrain competition or depress prices at Kansas City" was discovered and that Kansas farmers, "as a general rule, are getting all that their wheat is worth."

Few Soldiers Guard Prisoners Held in Siberia.

port at the barracks by nightfall they will be locked out and at this time of the year in that bleak country this would mean certain death, as there are practically no places where they could obtain shelter. The freedom of the prisoners during the day is absolute, even to the extent of accepting employment from local mining companies.

One of the handicaps to the development of Southeastern Siberia is the lack of roads and it is likely that the Russian war department will be asked to put these prisoners to road making. They have within their ranks not only the necessary manual laborers, but the equally important engineering staff to plan and supervise the work.

Problem Already Acute. The problem of caring for the German and Austrian prisoners in Russia is already becoming acute as the number increases and the Russian government probably would welcome any plan which will enable the prisoners to be self-supporting.

An attack of the Russian government now in London who left Petrograd only last week says he was informed by an official of the Department of the Interior, which has charge of the maintenance of the prisoners, that there are now in Russia, exclusive of the Germans reported as captured in the operations now under way in North Poland, 750,000 Austrian and German prisoners of war. Of this number, only 200,000 are Germans. The remainder are Austrians and most of them were captured during the campaign in Galicia.

Employees to Share \$650,000. CHICAGO, Dec. 9.—Ten thousand employees of the Crane Company will share in a \$650,000 Christmas gift this year, as a partial recompense for the shrinkage in wages that resulted from lost time during the last year, according to an announcement by R. T. Crane, third, today.

A Pleasure to give A Joy to receive

PALL MALL FAMOUS CIGARETTES

A Special Holiday Packing of 100



Sipman Wolfe & Co. Merchandise of Merit Only

Unusually Advantageous Sales For Thursday

Most Notable Sale Women's Dresses which have sold regularly at \$16.50 to \$25.00. In the most correct and newest styles, of velvet, silk and serge, in black, navy blue, brown, green and fancy effects. Now \$9.95 Third Floor

New Turban Hats for Skating—Regular \$2.95 to \$4.95. Of seal plush, with soft crowns and brims of chinchilla, beaver and fur effects. In three styles. For 95c Second Floor

\$3.50 Framed Pictures—Sepia, platinum and hand-colored, 50 subjects, reproductions of celebrated paintings. Framed in carved old gold frames with rosebud and bow-knot decorations \$1.98 Sixth Floor

Extraordinary Sale Pyralin Ivory Toilet Sets \$7.50 three-piece set in gift case \$4.98 \$8.50 combination 7-piece set, in case \$5.98 \$5.00 ivory manicure set \$3.98 \$12.00 three-piece toilet set \$8.98 \$5.00 pair ivory military brushes \$3.69 \$7.50 pair ivory military brushes \$5.98 \$25.00 combination ivory set \$18.50 First Floor

85c and \$1.00 New Neckwear—Flare collars of sheer organdie—Oriental lace De Medici collars—pleated net collars with imitation Armenian lace edge. For 69c First Floor

Art Needlework Pieces—Selling regularly from 39c as high as \$50.00 each. Including finished art pieces and pieces stamped for working. Lingerie pin cushions, macramé novelties, children's dresses, portieres, pillow tops, scarfs, bags, centerpieces, aprons, shirt waists, boxes, trays, cretonne boxes. At Half Price Fifth Floor

\$2.75 Seco Silk Petticoats—In several new models, trimmed with lace, fine pleating and ribbons. In white, pink, blue, yellow and lavender \$1.98 Fourth Floor

Continuation of the Great Jewelry Sale Offering Every Article in Stock At One-Fifth to One-Half Off First Floor

The Men's Store Offers English Mufflers and Reefers—From Allan Solly and Welsh Margetson, of London, England. Pure silk mufflers in most artistic color combinations. Selling from \$4.50 to \$10.00 regularly, for \$2.25 to \$5.00 HALF PRICE

All Silk Pajamas—Of imported pongee, white china silk, fine striped silks. In white and colors. Regular \$5.00 to \$12.00, for \$3.34 to \$8.00 ONE-THIRD OFF

All Silk Night Shirts—Of pongee, white and satin striped materials. Selling regularly at \$3.50 to \$7.00; this sale, \$2.34 to \$4.67 ONE-THIRD OFF First Floor

\$1.35 Women's Flannelette Gowns—Heavy fleeced flannelette gowns, in white, blue and pink stripes. Full width and length, made in a variety of styles. For 98c Fourth Floor

New Colored Petticoats—Of cotton messaline, heatherbloom, sateen and brocade; selling at \$1.35. In all sizes and extra sizes. With accordion-pleated flounces. In popular colors. Special 98c

Marabou Capes, Stoles and Muffs—In natural color and black. Finest quality. \$15 Pieces, \$11.25 \$6.25 Pieces, \$4.69 \$10.00 Pieces \$7.50 \$5.75 Pieces, \$4.32 \$8.75 Pieces, \$6.57 \$4.25 Pieces, \$3.19 One Fourth Off First Floor

Place Your Xmas Engraving Orders Now Last Opportunity to Profit By Our Special Engraving Prices Before Christmas Basement

The Sixth Floor Gift Store Answers the Question "What Shall I Buy for Xmas" A Thousand Beautiful and Useful Gifts One-Fifth to Half Less Regular Prices Sixth Floor